



THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE REVIEW EXPERIENCE

2014 Senior Corps RSVP Review
Orientation **Session 1**



ORIENTATION

- ▶ Competition Overview & Criteria
- ▶ Completing the Review
- ▶ Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality
- ▶ Questions



OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Define the CNCS's mission and grant review processes
- ▶ Describe the Reviewer's role in identifying worthy service programs
- ▶ Explain how rigor and documentation drive the review and selection processes



CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Created in 1993 and expanded opportunities for Americans to serve their communities

Engages millions of Americans of all ages and backgrounds in service each year

Nation's largest grant maker supporting service and volunteering



OUR MISSION

To improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering.

The Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act

Signed into law on April 21, 2009.



CNCS PROGRAMS

Senior
Corps

AmeriCorps

Social
Innovation
Fund

Special
Initiative
Grants



MECHANICS OF GRANT REVIEW

- ▶ External and Staff Reviewers
- ▶ Field Model
- ▶ Time Frame
- ▶ Reviewers do not make funding decisions, but opinions are considered
- ▶ CEO makes funding decisions



PURPOSE OF BLENDED REVIEW

- ▶ Determine Quality of Applications
- ▶ Inform Decision Makers
- ▶ Provide Feedback to Applicants



REVIEWER RESPONSIBILITIES

Prepare and block time for the review



Read, analyze, and rate applications



As part of a Review

Read/evaluate

Discuss

Revise assessment

Submit final forms



DOCUMENTS THAT GUIDE APPLICATION PREPARATION

Notice of
Funding
Opportunity
(Notice)

Regulations

Application
Instructions

Frequently
Asked
Questions



COMPETITION PRIORITIES

Healthy
Futures

Veterans and
Military
Families

Environmental
Stewardship

Economic
Opportunity

Disaster
Services

Education

Six Focus Areas



COMPETITION PRIORITIES (CONT.)

Programming elements in the Primary Focus Area

- Persuasive evidence of community need(s).
- Highly effective management of RSVP volunteers and volunteer stations.
- Service activities that lead to National Performance Measure outputs or outcomes.



PARTS OF THE APPLICATION REVIEW

- ▶ SF 424:Narrative
- ▶ Budget
- ▶ Budget Narrative



APPLICATION STRUCTURE

- ▶ 424 Facesheet
- ▶ Budget Narrative
- ▶ Work plans/Performance Measures
- ▶ Required Documents
- ▶ Budget Narrative



NEXT STEPS

- ▶ Continue Reading 2014 RSVP Review Handbook
- ▶ Participate in Orientation Session RSVP 101
- ▶ Confirm Completion of Orientation 1
 - ▶ Email Secret Word to PeerReviewers@cns.gov